

Daily Rogue River Courier.

As Independent Republican Newspaper. United Press Leased Wire Telegraph Service

A. E. VOORHIES, Pub. and Prot.
WILFORD ALLEN, Editor

Entered at the Grants Pass, Oregon, Postoffice as second-class mail matter.

SUBSCRIPTION RATES

One Year\$5.00
Six Months3.00
Three Months1.50
One Month50

Payable in Advance.

MONDAY, JANUARY 10, 1916.

REMINDERS AT WASHINGTON.

Back at the national capital, where the air is charged and surcharged with politics, where notes and protests and ultimatums and rejoinders have distracted men's minds, this certain portion of the northwest has broken through the ranks and forced attention. For nearly two years the wonders of southern Oregon and of northern California have been discussed to congressmen and to army engineers, and more knowledge of the latent resources of the west has been absorbed by them than they had dreamed of before. As a new year reminder of the trip which members of the rivers and harbors committee from congress took through the west, the good people of Crescent City have placed in the hands of the committeemen novel souvenirs of the pilgrimage. When the visitors were en route from the coast to Grants Pass to continue on by rail, they were photographed in the redwoods. These photographs, beautiful specimens of art, have been mounted upon polished redwood slabs, and a copy forwarded to each member of the committee as well as to other interested officials. With each copy was forwarded data bearing upon the resources tributary to the Crescent harbor. One of these souvenirs was sent to the Courier publisher, and is now displayed in the Courier office. The large relief maps showing the country tributary to the harbor have also arrived in Washington before now, and will call to the minds of congressmen and engineers the bigness of the west. The board of engineers has acknowledged the sufficiency of the evidence presented and has approved the improvement of the harbor in the interests of commerce. There seems little doubt about the action of congress, and it is believed that another season will see the work commenced.

OREGON MINERAL OUTPUT

A recently issued estimate from the U. S. geological survey states that there have been heavy increases in the mineral output of Oregon for 1915 over that of the previous year, both of gold and silver. The estimate gives the following figures:

The gold yield for 1914 was \$1,591,461 and the estimate for 1915 is \$1,771,618, which is an increase of \$180,157 for 1915. The silver output for 1914 was 142,552 ounces, and the estimate for 1915 is 136,033 ounces, or 6,519 ounces less. The yield of copper in 1914 was 39,248 pounds, while the estimate for 1915 is 910,104 pounds, an increase for 1915 of 870,856 pounds; and the yield of lead was 16,436 pounds in 1914, as compared with 6,650 pounds in 1915, or 9,786 pounds less. These preliminary figures are compiled by Charles G. Yale, of the San Francisco office of the survey.

It is noteworthy that such material increases in output of gold and copper should be apparent when the fact is considered that the number of producing mines in Oregon has fallen off fully one-third in the past two years. Those which have dropped from the producing list, however, have been mainly small placers of various kinds where the ground has been worked out or has failed to pay. The larger deep mines continue their productive career, with few exceptions, but not many new properties of moment have of late been opened. More capital for mine development

is needed in the state, where there are few extensive properties in operation. Baker county continues to be by far the most productive county of the state, yielding annually fully 85 per cent of all the gold. The most productive deep mine in Oregon in 1915, as also for the preceding two years, was that of the Commercial Mining company, operating the Rainbow mine in Cracker Creek district, Baker county. This property is shortly to be turned back to its original owners. Among other large producers in the same county is the Cornucopia Mining company, in Cornucopia district, which in 1915 increased its output for the reason that they encountered higher grade ore on the lower levels than they had before. The Baker Mines company, in the same district, has put in a 500-ton mill, and has been operating most of the year. In Cracker Creek district, also in Baker county, the Columbia Mines company made about the same yield as in the previous year. The output of the Humboldt property, in Mormon Basin district, Malheur county, was not as high as in 1914. The Ben Harrison mine, in Granite district, Grant county, was closed down most of the year 1915 and will not begin operations until next spring. Of the placer mines in Oregon, the most important enterprise is that of the Powder River Dredge company, Cracker Creek district, Baker county. This company, which owned but one dredge in 1914, put another one in operation in the same field in 1915, and it is to the work of this company that the increase in gold yield in the state for the year is mainly due. Other placer mines are the Osgood, Waldo district, Josephine county; the Layton, in Applegate district, Jackson county, and the smaller mines around Grants Pass, in Josephine county. The gold yield from the dredging operations is greatly in excess of that from all other forms of placer mining combined.

A Great Military Feat.

Nonza, in Corsica, is very proud of the story of a great military feat performed there long ago. It is told in "Romantic Corsica" by George Renwick.

The French in 1768 had subjugated all the northern cape with the exception of the tower of Nonza, which for a considerable time sustained a close siege. Attacking parties were driven back by a fierce fire, but at last the garrison agreed to surrender if allowed to march out with all the honors of war. This was conceded, and old Captain Casella appeared, staggering under a load of muskets and pistols.

"Why is the garrison so long in coming out?" asked the French commander.

"It is here, sir," replied Casella. "I am the garrison."

Needs No Lightning Rod.

A building 9,000 feet above sea level should be protected by lightning rods, one thinks, but the astronomical observatory at Mount Etna has not and does not need such protection. The observatory is near the summit of the volcano, and the stream of vapor constantly rising from the crater acts as a natural conductor, draining the electricity out of the clouds, so that lightning is seldom seen there.

If This Insect Had Wings!

You can excuse a child for calling a whale a fish, but listen to this youngster, who is reported in the Boston Transcript:

Child at Library—Please give me a book on whales.

A book on natural history with a chapter devoted to whales is brought.

The Child—Oh, I don't mean a book on the insect. I mean the country!

Simple Directions.

"My dear," said she, "please run and bring me the needle from the haystack."

"I don't know which haystack."

"Look in all the haystacks. You can't miss it. There's only one needle."

—From "More Jonathan Papers."

Woman's Desire to Attract.

Owing to the system under which we live, where man is a valuable prey, woman has contracted the habit of trying to attract. Even aggressive intolerance on her part may conceal the desire to attract by exasperating.

—W. L. George in Atlantic.

Has to Be.

"Our allyship club is very economical."

"Well, it goes without saying that an allyship club has to husband its means."

—Baltimore American.

Dri-Foot at Rogue River Haws. 41

Oregon mining laws, 40c. Courier.

REPORT OF CONDITION OF THE FIRST NATIONAL BANK OF SOUTHERN OREGON			
at Grants Pass, in the State of Oregon, at the close of business on December 31st, 1915.			
RESOURCES			
Loans and discounts (except those shown on b).....	\$270,918.19		
Total loans.....	\$270,918.19		
Overdrafts, unsecured.....	177.39		
U. S. bonds deposited to secure circulation.....	12,500.00	12,500.00	
Total U. S. bonds.....		12,500.00	
Bonds other than U. S. bonds pledged to secure postal savings deposits.....	10,000.00		
Securities other than U. S. bonds (not including stocks) owned and unpledged.....	61,666.20	61,666.20	
Total bonds, securities, etc.....		61,666.20	
Subscription to stock of Federal Reserve Bank.....	\$4,500.00		
Less amount unpaid.....	2,250.00		
Value of banking house (if unencumbered).....	20,000.00		
Furniture and fixtures.....	3,500.00		
Real estate owned other than banking house.....	12,350.00		
Due to banks and bankers (others than included in 28 or 29).....	8,987.89		
Net amount due from approved reserve agents in New York, Chicago, and St. Louis.....	11,252.78		
Net amount due from approved reserve agents in other reserve cities.....	27,575.41	38,828.19	
Net amount due from banks and bankers (other than included in 10 or 11).....	2,703.97		
Outside checks and other cash items.....	1,076.15		
Fractional currency, nickels, and cents.....	132.25	1,208.40	
Notes of other national banks.....		2,800.00	
Coin and certificates.....		19,848.75	
Legal-tender notes.....		200.00	
Redemption fund with U. S. Treasurer and due from U. S. Treasurer.....		625.00	
Other assets, if any, gold dust.....		688.48	
Total.....		\$459,252.46	
LIABILITIES			
Capital stock paid in.....	\$ 50,000.00		
Surplus fund.....	25,000.00		
Undivided profits.....	\$ 37,860.34		
Less current expenses, interest and taxes paid.....	8,968.30	28,891.94	
Circulating notes outstanding.....		12,100.00	
Due to banks and bankers (others than included in 28 or 29).....		4,860.17	
Individual deposits subject to check.....		217,357.97	
Certificates of deposit due in less than 30 days.....		22,000.00	
Postal savings deposits.....		7,473.55	
Total demand deposits, items 32, 33, 34, 35, 36, 37, 38, and 39.....	246,831.52		
Certificates of deposit.....		91,568.83	
Total.....		\$459,252.46	
State of Oregon, County of Josephine, ss: I, H. L. Gilkey, Cashier of the above named bank, do solemnly swear that the above statement is true to the best of my knowledge and belief. H. L. GILKEY, Cashier.			
Subscribed and sworn to before me this 5th day of January, 1916. E. M. NORTON, Notary Public. (My Commission Expires March 30th, 1917.)			
Correct—Attest: JOHN D. FRY, H. D. NORTON, GEO. W. DONNELL, Directors.			

PRECIOUS POSTAGE STAMPS.

Issues That Bring Joy to the Heart of the Philatelist.

One of the questions asked us most frequently is, Which is the rarest of all the stamps? There are not a few claimants for this honor, all of which are exceedingly rare, stamps of which but a single copy is known to exist. Indeed, there is evidence which leads us to believe that some stamps were printed and used of which no copies at all are known to be in existence.

Of those stamps of which only one copy is known, the first is a postmaster's provisional issued at Boscauwen, N. H. Another is a stamp from British Guiana. Only one copy of this is known and is in a celebrated collection in Paris, probably the largest collection in the world.

In 1893 the Niger Coast Protectorate issued a series of surcharged stamps, all of which are scarce, and some of them are in the ranks of the world's greatest rarities. This refers especially to the twenty shilling values. Of the 20 shillings, surcharged in violet, only five copies were ever printed; of the vermilion surcharge, only two copies, and of the black surcharge, only one copy.

As there is and can be only one copy of this last stamp, it is justly entitled to be considered the rarest of all stamps. It probably would not sell so high as the better known and more popular "postoffice" stamps of Mauritius. Yet of these there are known fourteen copies of the penny and twelve of the twopenny.—St. Nicholas.

LUCK IN A MISTAKE.

When the Famous Singer Albani First Went to London.

The curious story of Mme. Albani's first London engagement is as follows: Colonel Mapleson heard of her singing at a theater at Malta, and, thinking that she would be successful, he made her an offer through an agent of a contract to sing in Her Majesty's theater. She agreed to it and went to London, but on arriving there she told the colonel to drive her to the Italian opera house.

He, instead of going to Her Majesty's, took her to Covent Garden, which was also devoted to Italian opera. She was shown up to the manager's office and stated that she had come to sign the contract which Mr. Mapleson had offered her.

Mr. Gye, thinking to play a joke on his rival, Mapleson, made out a contract, and Albani signed it. Mr. Gye then told her that he was not Colonel Mapleson, but that he could do much better by her. He offered to tear up the contract if she liked, but told her that Nilsson was singing at Her Majesty's and would brook no rival.

Albani decided to let the contract stand and thus became one of the stars of Covent Garden, eventually marrying the son of Mr. Gye.—Westminster Gazette.

For good bargains in furniture, see Helmer's. 640

Envelopes, 5c per package, 20c per 100.—Courier Office.

For the
New Year

Blank Books

Filing Devices

Office Supplies

Demaray's

Drug and
Stationery Store

THE CHINESE WAY

Taking a Street Car Ride in the
City of Shanghai.

A PUZZLE FOR A WHITE MAN.

Experience of an American Tourist
Who Made a Bluff at Appearing to
Know All the Rules—A Patient Conductor
and an Interested Cargo.

Writing of his adventures in the Chinese city of Shanghai, Homer Croy, in Leslie's Weekly, tells of the experience he had there in taking a ride on a street car:

The car was full of Chinamen, with not another white soul aboard, all sitting there in their skirts, their faces as expressionless as the heads of drums, but as soon as I came in their faces began to fill with interest, one nudging another until the whole car was looking at me.

I felt that something was wrong, but I could not figure out just what. I knew that it shouldn't create that much of a sensation for a white person to get on a car in Shanghai, but still they were looking at me as if I could be signed by a circus. I struggled to look unconcerned, but I knew that my cheeks were backfiring.

The conductor, in his suit of blue jeans, with a satchel over his shoulder, came up and said something to me, while I nodded with earnest carelessness and handed him a twenty cent piece, knowing that he could get enough out of it to satisfy his wants.

"Mun stau chong du?" he asked. I nodded again and held out my hand for the change, plainly showing that I made the trip on the line twice a day.

"Mun stau chong du t'ing kung shon du?" he asked with more feeling, pointing down the street with one hand.

"I didn't catch the drift of his remarks, but I wasn't going to show him that I wasn't an old citizen and taxpayer, so I shook my head this time and nestled back in the seat as if I were all settled. But the conductor became more excited than ever, drafted the other hand and gurgled:

"Mun stau chong du t'ing kung shon du fen du tsu sz whoo peh quong?"

So I waved in the other direction and tried to nestle again, but the conductor came back with another round of monosyllabic re-enforcements. With that his fellow men in the car came to his help with an arsenal of words, each one thinking that he could make it plain by raising his voice just a bit

higher than any one else. Reaching in his satchel, the conductor offered me a slip of paper spotted with Chinese writing. I took it and started to stuff it nonchalantly into my pocket, but he became more excited than ever and came back with another string of empties, while I put the slip back into his hand as if it made not the slightest bit of difference in the world to me whether I kept it or whether he had it—I would leave the details of the trip to him.

The conductor used his hands some more and then turned and signaled for somebody from the car ahead. Another man in blue jeans with a satchel over his shoulder came and listened for a few blocks while my conductor explained. A Chinaman can never explain anything in a sentence or two; he has to go into details and go through his whole selling talk before he feels that the other has grasped the general drift of thought.

The other man bent over. He was evidently a master of English. "How much for you goes, mister? You payee how far you ride?"

Then I understood. When you get on you have to tell the conductor how far you are going, and he charges you for just that distance. But even after my fare was settled the natives on the car kept looking at me and pointing with their chins, as is their custom.

When I went to get off I saw several other white people piling off, but they were all from the front end of the first car. Then I looked at the markings on the car and saw what was the matter—I had been riding in the third class section with the coolies!

All the Shanghai street cars are divided up into classes—first, second and third. The white people all ride first class, the better to do Chinese second, while no one ever ventures third except the coolies.

Nature and Poetry.

Environment aids poetry, but does not create it. Nature is the grand agent in making poetry, and poetry is present wherever nature is. It sparkles on the sea, glows in the rainbow, flashes from the lightning and the star, peeks in thunder, roars in the sunset and sings in the winds. Poetry is God's image reflected in nature, as in mirror, and nature is present wherever man is.—Selected.

His Weak Point.

A man who takes a business view of things when recently asked his opinion of a person of quite a poetic temperament replied:

"Oh, he's one of those men who have soundings after the infinite and divines after the unfathomable, but who never pay cash."

Mining blanks, Courier office.

Another Year of the Panama-California Exposition at San Diego

This beautiful exposition will continue all the year 1916—bigger and better than ever. Many of the best exhibits from San Francisco have been transferred to San Diego. If you neglected to see San Diego in 1915, do not fail to see this beautiful city this year. The winter is the logical time, too. Six months round trip tickets are on sale daily from all Pacific Northwest points to Southern California.

2:40 P. M.
California
Express

1:00 A. M.
Exposition
Special

2:20 A. M.
Shasta Limited
Train De-Luxe

9:30 A. M.
San Francisco
Express

4
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and
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